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Sixty-first year

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Identical letters dated 10 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I am writing in order to draw your attention to the most recent terrorist attacks perpetrated against the citizens of Israel — the continuous firing of Kassam rockets.

From 5 July to 9 July 2006, 33 Kassam rockets were launched against the State of Israel. Of these, 22 rockets landed on Israeli soil, including many that struck inside the city of Sderot and surrounding localities.

These latest attacks damaged a factory and greenhouse, destroyed a private home and produced two fires. Seven people were wounded in this wave of aggression: one was injured moderately, two lightly and three were treated for shock.

These Kassam rocket attacks represent a serious and continuing escalation of the current situation. They are intended to produce damage, injury and death. Moreover, they are intentionally provocative, and as such, they show a flagrant disregard for the safety of people on all sides of the conflict.

Since Israel's disengagement from the Gaza Strip and parts of the West Bank in August 2005, Palestinian terrorists have fired more than 660 Kassam rockets towards Israel. No State could countenance such an assault on its very existence.

I submit the present letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism launched in September 2000, which document the crimes for which the terrorists and their supporters must be held fully accountable.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter circulated as a document of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 14 and 108, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dan **Gillerman**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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